Bank credit frozen in sick units

838. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 8 per cent of the total bank credit is at present frozen in sick units in all sectors of industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the steps taken so far by Government to recover it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI):

(a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that as at the end of June, 1985, the bank credit to sick units was 7.7 per cent of the total bank credit. Banks make all possible efforts to ensure timely recovery of their dues through constant follow-up action. increase in the frequency of periodic inspections, frequent personal discussions with the promoters/chief executives of the defaulting concerns, etc. In appropriate cases banks resort to recalling advances by enforcing securities charged to them. Banks also determine viability of the sick units and in order to nurse and restore the potentially viable units back to financial health provide necessary reliefs|concesion through rehabilitation packages, evolved on a case to case basis.

Office of CCI&E at Hyderabad

839. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the regional office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports at Hyderabad has been down graded since April 1985 and made subordinate to the joint Chief Controller at Madras;

(b) whether it is a fact that this has resulted in inordinate delay in clearance of applicatons for import| export licences;

(c) whether several represntation were made in this regard by the State Government agaencies as well as the Federation of Andhra Pradesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The downgradation of the office at Hyderbad was done keeping in view the workload in that office. The matter would be reviewed as and when the work-load warrants the same.

Yield of FCV tobacco

840. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that average yield per hectare of FCV tobacco in our country is far below than that in many other countries due to which the unit cost of our tobacco is higher; and

(b) if so, what step have been taken by Government to increase the yield and improve the quality and reduce the cost of curing and production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISRTY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The low yield is due to unfavourable climatic conditions and non-observance of recommended cultural practices by the farmers.

(b) Different technical programmes aimed at improving the yield and quality of FCV tobacco are being taken up every year by the Tobacco Board. These include (1) varietal trial demonstations (2) package demonstrations (3) irrigation trials (4)

topping and desuckering schemes etc. The Tobacco Board has drawn up a scheme covering a large area for improving yield and quality of FCV tobacco during the current crop season, 1986-87. The Tobacco Board has also initiated a scheme to supply JTS Jackets to the farmers at 50 per cent of the cost to reduce the cost of curing.

News item captioned "Smuggling on Indo-Tibet border

841. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in 'Indian Express' on October 13, 1986 captioned "Smuggling on Indo-Tibet border";

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action is being taken by Government to stop smuggling activities on this border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) The Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Smuggling on Indo-Tibet border" which appeared in the 'Indian Express' dated the 13th October, 1986.

(b) Reports received do not indicate prevalence of smuggling activities in the region on any significant scale.

(c) In order to check smuggling activities in the region the Government have entrusted certain function of the officers of Customs under the Customs Act to the offiicers of Indo-Tibetan Border Police. The tends in smuggling and seizures made in the region are kept under constant review for taking appropriate remedial measures in close co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government agencies deployed in the region.

Fall in deposits of commercial banks

842. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the aggregate deposits of the scheduled commercial banks came down during the fortnight ending 12th September 1986 as reported in the 'Financial Express' of October 11, 1986; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what remedial steps are being taken to boost the deposits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The variation in growth rate of deposits from one fortnight to another is a normal phenomenon in the Banking Industry. Short-term fluctuations in deposits could be caused by a number of factors including seasonal requirements of business. Such rises/falls from fortnight to fortnight are not unusual and are transtional in nature. Deposits and other Monetary and banking aggregates are under continuing review by the Reserve Bank of India and changes are instituted when considered necessary.

NTC mills running in loss

843. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of the textile mills owned by National Textile Corporation are running in loss;

(b) how many textile mills are managed by N. T. C. and how many are making profit and how many are running in losses;

(c) what is the amount of total accumulated loss in N. T. C. units;

(d) how many units have been made viable uptil now after their taking over;

(e) how many units are absolutely unviable; and

(f) whether Government are considering any proposal to close down such unviable units permanently?